

1 **1.** (currently amended) A method of providing continuing medical education credit to a first
2 physician for a consultation between the first physician and a second physician, ~~the~~
3 ~~consultation being conducted through an intermediary, the intermediary being connected~~
4 ~~by a telecommunications system to both the first and second physicians, and~~
5 the method comprising the steps performed in ~~the~~ an intermediary which is coupled by a
6 telecommunications system to both the first and second physicians -of:
7 arranging and conducting the consultation via the telecommunications system under
8 supervision of a medical information specialist in the intermediary who is neither the first nor the
9 second physician;
10 receiving a comment made with regard to the consultation via the telecommunications
11 system from the second physician in the intermediary; and
12 providing the comment to a ~~the~~ medical information specialist in the intermediary who is
13 ~~neither the first nor the second physician, the intermediary being empowered to certify that the~~
14 first physician is entitled to continuing medical education credit and ~~the medical information~~
15 ~~specialist evaluating the consultation represented by the comment to determining~~ determine
16 whether any continuing medical education credit is to result from the first physician is entitled to
17 continuing medical education credit on the basis of ~~the consultation represented by the comment~~
18 ~~and if continuing medical education credit is to result~~ the first physician is entitled, recording the
19 ~~resulting~~ certifying that the first physician is entitled to the continuing medical education credit
20 in a database accessible from the intermediary and otherwise not so certifying.

1 **2.** (currently amended) The method of providing continuing medical education credit set forth in
2 claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the steps performed in the intermediary under
3 supervision of the medical information specialist of:

4 retrieving instructional material relevant to the comment and the consultation from the
5 data base and

6 providing the instructional material to the first physician via the telecommunications
7 system;

8 ~~the step of retrieving instructional material being performed by the medical information~~
9 ~~specialist.~~

1 **3.** (currently amended) The method of providing continuing medical education credit set forth in
2 claim 2 wherein the method further comprises the steps performed in the intermediary under
3 supervision of the medical information specialist of:

4 providing an examination based on at least the instructional material via the
5 telecommunications system;

6 receiving answers for the examination from the first physician via the
7 telecommunications system; and

8 grading the received answers,

9 ~~the continuing medical education credit resulting from the consultation if the first physician~~
10 being entitled to the medical education credit if the first physician passes the examination.

1 | **4.** (currently amended) The method of providing continuing medical education credit set
2 | forth in claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the steps performed in the
3 | intermediary under supervision of the medical information specialist of:

4 | providing an examination based on at least the comment to the first physician via the
5 | telecommunications system;

6 | receiving answers for the examination from the first physician via the
7 | telecommunications system; and

8 | grading the received answers,

9 | ~~the continuing medical education credit resulting from the consultation if the first physician~~
10 | being entitled to the medical education credit if the first physician passes the examination.